



FALL 2020

Society Pages

News from Friends of
the J.N. "Ding" Darling
National Wildlife Refuge

ABOUT THE SOCIETY

"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society, the non-profit Friends of the Refuge organization, supports the J. N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge Complex through the generation of independent funds to undertake student education, internships, research projects, informational literature, advocacy, land acquisition and facility enhancements. Efforts may extend beyond the Complex's borders and involve partnerships with like-minded conservation organizations.

2021 Lecture Series to Move



Clyde and Niki Butcher will talk about the Everglades following the 2020 publication of Clyde's latest photographic triumph and as a sneak peek to Niki's Refuge exhibition starting November 2021.

The upcoming season's Friday Lecture Series will evolve with the times and persisting distance protocols by moving to the larger venue of the Sanibel Community House at 2173 Periwinkle Way. The free lectures will *continued on page 2*

The Refuge's first manager, Tommy Wood, at its original headquarters, located at the Sanibel Lighthouse



December 1: Celebrating 75 Years Anniversary incorporates 'Ding' Darling Day

On December 1, 1945, Harry S. Truman declared the 2,296-acre Sanibel National Wildlife Refuge an official U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) land dedicated to the conservation of precious wetland and protection of its birds, alligators, manatees, bobcats, and other dynamic wildlife. Seventy-five years later, the name has changed (back in 1967) to honor the man who set in motion legislation for the new Refuge, and Refuge Complex acreage has swelled to nearly 7,700 acres, but J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge's mission remains the same. Through the decades, conservation education and water quality have

added dimension to all the good the Refuge does for its community and nation. And on December 1, 2020, we celebrate the importance of "Ding" Darling to all who cherish it.

The Refuge and DDWS had more than a year's worth of activities planned to broadcast the auspicious occasion, but unfortunately coronavirus put a crimp in our style. We forge forward, nonetheless, with December 1 events, incorporating October's postponed "Ding" Darling Day and planning a daytime Refuge celebration and an evening ticketed gala event.

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SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society Members and Friends:

This is your formal notice of the Annual Business Meeting of the Society scheduled for **Wednesday, December 2, 2020, at 1 p.m.** to be held in the auditorium of the Visitor & Education Center at the J.N. "Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge.

AGENDA

- I Minutes of the Annual Meeting of December 4, 2019: Wendy Kindig
- II Treasurer's Report: Bill Valerian. Questions/comments from the floor.
- III President's Report: Mike Baldwin. Questions/comments from the floor.
- IV Board Nominating Committee Report: Mike Baldwin
- V New Board Members
- VI Emeritus Board Committee Report: Mike Baldwin
- VII Refuge Manager Remarks
- VIII Open Discussion of the Business of the Society
- X Adjournment

Should continued COVID-19 issues preclude an in-person meeting, advance notice of alternate meeting arrangements will be posted in "Ding" on the Wing and at the Refuge.

Wendy Kindig, Secretary

75th ANNIVERSARY

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If all goes as planned, the celebration will kick off in late October with the unveiling of our long-anticipated Wildlife on Wheels (WoW) mobile classroom, that exact date to be announced. On November 3, the Sanibel City Council will read a proclamation recognizing the Refuge's 75th anniversary and DDWS hopes to host a reception on city hall grounds.

December 1 will tentatively bring FWS and local dignitaries to the Refuge for a dedication in concert with "Ding" Day family activities along Wildlife Drive and Indigo Trail, incorporating distancing protocol. Admission to Wildlife Drive will be free to all that day, and the Refuge team hopes to be able to bring in its traditional live wildlife presentations.

DDWS put on its proverbial thinking cap to invent a safe way to keep its gala fundraiser on the calendar, and came up with the idea of a drive-in event in the parking lot across the street from the Sanibel Community House. For more information on attending or sponsoring the gala festivities, please contact April Boehnen at aprilb@dingdarlingsociety.org.



LECTURE SERIES

continued from page 1

occur on five select days throughout the season with one 10 a.m. lecture per day.

The 17th annual "Ding" Darling Friday Lecture Series, which runs January 29 through March 19, 2021, features photographers Clyde and Niki Butcher, *Feather Thief* author Kirk W. Johnson, and eminent authorities on water conservation, eagles, and owls.

"The uncertainties of COVID-19 challenged us to experiment with a new lecture series format so we could accommodate high-quality lecturers but still abide by new distancing guidelines," said Ann-Marie Wildman, "Ding" Darling's Nature Store Manager and lecture series organizer. "We would be extremely limited on how many we could seat at our usual venue in the Visitor & Education Center auditorium, but the Community House gives us more latitude. So we've decided on fewer lectures with topnotch speakers."

The season's complete schedule is listed to the right. Book signings follow all starred (*) lectures; books will be available for purchase that day.

Seating for the free lectures is limited and

available on a first-come basis. About 200 seats will be available. Face masks will be required. DDWS will be filming most lectures and broadcasting them on Facebook Live at facebook.com/dingdarling.

DDWS is seeking sponsors for two of the lectures below. Please contact April Boehnen at 239-472-1100 ext. 4 or Birgie Miller at 239-292-0566 for more information.

Note: Opinions expressed in guest lectures do not necessarily reflect the views of Refuge

and DDWS management, staff, and Board of Directors.

DID YOU KNOW?

The largest Bald Eagle nest on record was found in St. Petersburg, Florida. It measured 9.5 feet in diameter and 20 feet deep, according to the Guinness Book of World Records.

LECTURE SERIES SCHEDULE

Friday, Jan. 29 - Ocean Doctor David E. Guggenheim, "Water Conservation," sponsored by HighTower/Thomas & Swartz Wealth Management

***Thursday, Feb. 4** - Photographers Clyde and Niki Butcher, *The Everglades*, sponsored by Wayne and Linda Boyd

***Friday, Feb. 19** - Author Jack Davis, "The Bald Eagle: Symbol and Species in American History," sponsored by Southwest Florida Eagle Cam

***Friday, March 12** - Author Paul Bannick, "Great Gray Owl: A Visual Natural History," sponsor(s) needed

***Friday, March 19** - Author Kirk W. Johnson, *Feather Thief: Beauty, Obsession, and the Natural History Heist of the Century*, partially sponsored by HighTower/Thomas & Swartz Wealth Management; additional sponsor(s) needed

**starred lecture indicates book signing to follow*



Once-a-Month Givers

Island artist Paul Harmon designed the logo for monthly giving.

New Monthly Giving Program

In August, DDWS rolled out its OMG (Once-a-Month Giver) program as part of ongoing efforts to recoup financial losses caused by pandemic closures and cancellations.

"As is the case with a lot of our island charities, our fundraising efforts have been severely curtailed," said DDWS Executive Director Birgie Miller. "A real challenge for us in raising support for the Refuge has been the closure of our physical Nature Store while the Refuge's Visitor & Education Center has been shuttered since March. Normally, thousands of visitors a month come to the Center to purchase items to remember their visit and support our efforts outright with a gift."

Shortly before the pandemic lockdown, the store had debuted its ShopDingDarling.com e-commerce component, so staff has been working hard on growing that presence much more quickly than at first planned.

"Kudos to Manager Ann-Marie Wildman and her team, who beefed up the online inventory and added curbside pickup and personal shopper services," Birgie said. "They also added a line of face coverings, which have become big sellers. We are so grateful to our loyal shoppers who continue to support the Refuge this way, with 100 percent of profits benefiting wildlife research, education, and overall conservation."

DDWS has added the new OMG program to benefit donors by making it easy to apply automatic donations each month. OMG donors will receive special benefits that are still under development. More information is available at

dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/once-a-month-giver.

During the pandemic, DDWS has remained fully operational in its role keeping visitors engaged and educating the public. That means staffing and fund-

DID YOU KNOW?

The eye of the osprey forms the letter O in our clever OMG logo. Ospreys are known to mate for life and return to their same breeding area each year.

ing a number of free and virtual programs such "Ding" at Home videos and Virtual Nature Explorers Summer Camp, with the help of Refuge personnel. Conservation work at the Refuge never stopped, and DDWS continues to support its research, habitat restoration, internships, and educational outreach.

Birgie and her team hope to reap benefits from the OMG program by engaging new friends of the Refuge. "We are truly blessed with our supportive and generous body of sponsors and donors," she said. "They understand the importance of continued funding to the Refuge in its efforts to monitor water quality, keep our wildlife thriving, and educate and inspire the next generation to continue on with our work."

Visit tinyurl.com/donateding to donate to DDWS and support Refuge efforts today.

Wildlife Drive Fee Changes

Effective October 1, 2020, admission fees to the Refuge's Wildlife Drive have changed, the first increase in more than 30 years ago. As reflected in the chart above, daily vehicular admission fees increase on October 1 from \$5 to \$10 and annual passes from \$12 to \$25. Entry fees for pedestrians and cyclists remain at \$1 each for persons ages 15 and older only. Admission to the Visitor & Education Center (when reopened) and Bailey Tract trails is still free. The cost of the Senior Pass, Access Pass, and other federal passes all remain the same and are available for purchase at the Wildlife Drive fee booth (Fridays at Tarpon Bay Explorers).

"The fees help maintain structures, roads, and landscaping across our 7,700 acres," said Supervisory Refuge Ranger Toni Westland, who oversees Visitor Services. "We also have become increasingly reliant on entrance fees for staff salaries, especially where public safety and security are concerned."

The fee income also is used to increase accessibility at the Refuge and for other visitor facilities.

Effective October 1st, 2020	
FEE INCREASES FOR WILDLIFE DRIVE	
MOTORIZED VEHICLES	
Current Fees through 9/30/2020	Fees as of 10/1/2020
\$5	\$10
HIKERS & BIKERS	
Current Fees through 9/30/2020	Fees as of 10/1/2020
\$1	\$1
ANNUAL PASS	
Current Fees through 9/30/2020	Fees as of 10/1/2020
\$12	\$25
100% OF ENTRANCE FEES SUPPORT J.N.C. "DING" DARLING NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!	100% OF ENTRANCE FEES SUPPORT J.N.C. "DING" DARLING NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!
FREE Visitor & Education Center, open Sun - Apr, everyday!	FREE Visitor & Education Center, open Sun - Apr, everyday!
Wildlife Drive is \$3,000 per vehicle.	Wildlife Drive is \$3,000 per vehicle.
All visitors must exit refuge lands and waters no later than 1/2 hour after legal sunset.	All visitors must exit refuge lands and waters no later than 1/2 hour after legal sunset.



THANKS TO OUR 2021 FILM SERIES SPONSORS

Sanibel Captiva Beach Resorts (SCBR) recently presented the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society with a donation to support the 2021 Bi-Weekly Wednesday Film Series, which runs January 20 to April 14 and consists of seven nature- and conservation-related films. They range from A Sense of Wonder about Rachel Carson to Smog of the Sea, dealing with the reality of microplastic-filled oceans. We are planning on hosting the films in the Visitor & Education Center, provided it reopens on time. Stay tuned to "Ding" on the Wing and dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/lecture-and-film-series for updates about the schedule and venue.

STAFF NEWS

Congrats to Paul Tritaik upon His Retirement

"Ding" Darling Refuge Manager Paul Tritaik retired from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, effective September 30. Paul served the Refuge for 12 years as part of a 38-year commitment to the Service.

"I have been fortunate to work with an outstanding staff, exceptional friends group, top-notch volunteers, superb concessionaire, and a great supportive community on Sanibel," said Paul. "Together we accomplished a lot from land acquisition to habitat restoration to new and improved facilities to expanded education and wildlife-oriented recreation."

Recently, Paul has been in Atlanta serving a regional detail for the FWS. Kevin Godsea, who has been serving as Acting Refuge Manager during much of Paul's detail, will continue to serve in that position until a new permanent manager is hired.

"This is such a bittersweet moment for us," said Mike Baldwin, DDWS President. "Paul has shown us extraordinary, brilliant leadership in the past dozen years and will be deeply missed by all associated with the Refuge and Friends group. At the same time, we are happy to see he has reached a much-deserved opportunity to kick back with his family and look back at a fulfilling, purposeful career serving our nation's conservation mission in the most meaningful way. We look forward to celebrating this occasion with Paul when appropriate later this year."



Paul Tritaik

Patrick, a native of Tver, Russia, was adopted at seven months old and raised in River Edge, New Jersey. He graduated from the University of Delaware, Newark, in May 2020 with a double major in wildlife and insect ecology/conservation.

For the past two summers Patrick worked as an undergraduate researcher focused on photographing and identifying moths caught in traps at different field sites one year and evaluating insect recolonization in newly reforested areas the second. While in school, he also served as president of birding and entomology clubs with a strong emphasis on public and environmental education.

"One of the things that I'm most excited about with this position is that I have a lot of creative license and opportunities to brainstorm educational programs, and I'm looking forward to helping expand the already excellent array of educational programs and materials offered at the Refuge," Patrick said. "I also help with monofilament removal, which I love because it's very important and also means I get out on the water every week. Lastly, I remain hopeful that the situation with COVID-19 clears up soon so that we're able to begin visiting classrooms for programs and having groups of students again visit the Refuge."

DDWS provides living stipends and other benefits for about a dozen interns each year. The Refuge supports interns with free housing. For more information about the Refuge's internship programs, contact Supervisory Refuge Ranger Toni Westland at 239-472-1100 ext. 237. To learn about supporting the Refuge intern program, contact Lynnae Messina, DDWS Associate Director, at 239-472-1100 ext. 233.



Katy Hosokawa



Patrick Carney

ADVOCACY IN ACTION

The State of Our Water Resources: A Mixed Bag

by Sarah Ashton and Jim Metzler,
DDWS Advocacy Committee Co-Chairs

The constant drumbeat of headline-grabbing issues makes it difficult to focus on issues that impact our water resources. To combat that, this article will summarize the status of some critical water-related issues.

Funding for Water Projects

In its last legislative session, the Florida legislature allocated more than \$600 million for water projects. Unfortunately, the legislature refused to go along with the governor's request to guarantee funding for three years.

Resiliency to Climate Change

In July 2019, the governor appointed Florida's first Chief Resiliency Officer. She resigned six months later and hasn't been replaced.

Water Quality Legislation

In its last legislative session, the Florida legislature passed the first water quality bill in a long time. Unfortunately, the bill continues to leave it up to farmers to enforce whether they are following best practices relative to minimizing nutrient runoff.

Managing Releases from Lake Okeechobee

There was a recent attempt to require the Army Corps to keep the water in Lake Okeechobee high and hence increase the risk of harmful algal blooms hitting the Refuge. As of this moment, it appears that attempt has been thwarted.

Summary

Progress is being made, but it is tenuous, and so much more needs to be done. Stay tuned through the "Ding" on the Wing e-newsletter, and learn how you can help with advocacy and other outreach.

WILDLIFE SPOTLIGHT

Here, we showcase a few of the best wildlife shots taken recently at the Refuge by photographers, volunteers, staff, interns, and others. A big thank-you to all our photographers. If you have a Refuge wildlife picture to share, please contact Sierra Hoisington at shois@dingdarlingsociety.org.

Below: A Great Egret struts its stuff, unfazed by the showy beauty of a bowl of Roseate Spoonbills, in this capture by volunteer Jim Bennight.



Above: New Education Intern Patrick Carney loves bugs and has volunteered to update insect displays the Education Team uses for classes, supported by the Harkey Intern Fund. Here, he shares an Imperial Moth portrait he took at the Refuge.

DID YOU KNOW?

*The Imperial Moth (*Eacles imperialis*), as an adult, lacks any functioning mouthparts. It has only about a week of its short life to find a mate. This male uses its feathery antennae to detect pheromones released by females.*

SHOP DINGDARLING.COM



Visit ShopDingDarling.com for a wide selection of quality binoculars, toys, gifts, logo items, jewelry, face masks, and other apparel.

New Shopping Services

While the Refuge Visitor & Education Center remains closed, shop online for all your "Ding" gift needs. The staff has built special sections for face coverings, games



and puzzles, and just-added items. Local buyers can opt for curbside delivery to avoid delivery charges. Need help finding the perfect gift? Call 239-472-1100 ext. 241 or email naturestore@dingdarlingsociety.org to arrange a Personal Shopping experience.

Purchase Clyde Butcher Prints to Support Refuge

Did you know that when you purchase your favorite prints by iconic nature art photographer Clyde Butcher through the Nature Store, the price is the same as purchasing directly from him, yet a portion goes to benefit the Refuge? Butcher's stunning, hand-pulled photographs are collected the world over, and this is a rare opportunity to own one while supporting wildlife and conservation education. Call 239-472-1100 ext. 241 for more information.



Store Events

Watch for news of holiday shopping events and a possible signing of Butcher's forthcoming photographic book triumph, *The Everglades*, later this year. The Nature Store will be selling the new, highly anticipated coffee-table book for \$125 upon delivery, and currently is taking advance orders for \$95 each.

Remember; DDWS members receive a 10% discount onsite at the Nature Store. Profits from all Nature Store sales go directly to the Refuge for educational programs, wildlife research, and overall conservation.

MEMORIAL AND HONOR GIFTS

June 1 – August 31, 2020

Memorial gifts and gifts made in honor of special occasions are a wonderful way to pay tribute to family and friends who are important to us. Throughout the year, the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society has received gifts in memory and in honor of loved ones. Thank you to everyone who supported the Refuge in this thoughtful and meaningful way.

We recently received gifts in **MEMORY** of the following:

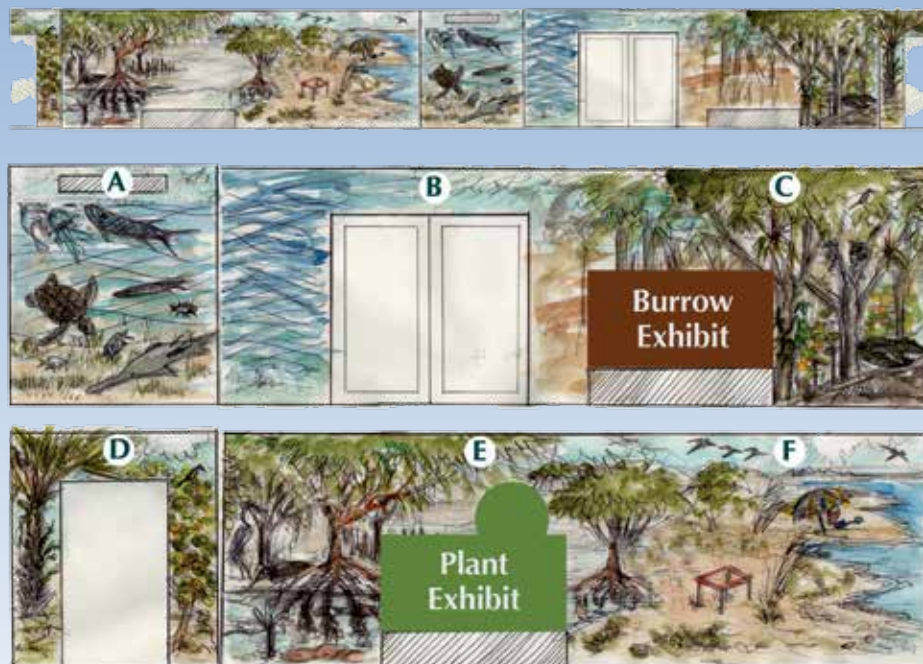
Derek Barter	SamSabrina Kaplan
Clifford B. Borg	Jason King
Shirley Boertje	Judith Kirchner
Mickey Bowers	James Kowalski
Roy Brabec	Theodore Kucera
Betty & Don Bruce	Soline Leon
Dr. Robert L. Catherman	Lars Liljequist
Rosalie Courter	John Masuka
Randy Deming	Hermie Miller
Mary Sue Denk	John W. Nichols
Ellene Douglas	June Norton
Lance Ellenberg	Don Pattison
Joann Fosselman	Jack Lewis Rushworth
Sally Goshen	George Rutledge
Anne “Nana” Heine	John Salladino
Gerald Holman	Donald Schoenewolf
Margaret & George Howe	Jack Schnieders
Hollis Jeffcoat	Shirley Sullins
Donna Johnson	Hans Wagner
Howard & Betty Johnson	Gordon Webb
Irving & Alwyn Johnson	Lee Williams, Jr.

We recently received gifts in **HONOR** of the following:

Sarah Ashton	Diane McMillen
Crissy Atkinson	Kirk Metzger
Howard Buhse, Jr.	Sadie Ann Netel
Jeff Combs	B.G. O'Reilly
Amanda Hockensmith	Jim Patnode
Jensen Family	Tara Perry
Mary & Ben Klaus	Kasey Robb & Justin Pierce
The Manatees of	Greta Saylor
“Ding” Darling	Barbara Webb
Charles Manzella	Scarlett & Rowan Williams

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOW US!

To “like” us on **Facebook** (along with more than 15,000 others), search for “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society. (You can also “like” the Refuge by searching for its “Official” page.) You can follow us on **Instagram**, where we have 13,500-plus followers, at @dingdarlingwildlifesociety. On **Twitter**, search @DingDarlingWS. Also visit our **YouTube** channel by searching “ding darling wildlife society.”



Interior classroom renderings by fabrication artist David Williams

WoW Unveiling Planned

The Refuge Education Team has spent the summer intensely planning the design and curriculum for the Refuge's Wildlife on Wheels (WoW) mobile classroom project. This fall, all their hard work will pay off when the Refuge unveils WoW, an event tentatively planned for late October, and begins traveling to at-risk schools to inspire and teach young students about local ecology and conservation.

The planning team met with Lee County District Schools' environmental teachers to help identify species the classroom should address and design a series of scavenger hunts, games, tests, and flash cards that WoW facilitators will be using to teach state standards – a different set of tools for each grade kindergarten through 12, plus a non-grade specific one for libraries and other non-school venues.

Thanks to a grant from a private family foundation awarded to DDWS, the Refuge hired a Summer Teachers Assisting Refuges (STAR) teacher for two months to help with educational programming.

Jennifer Rasner has been teaching fourth grade for two years at Allen Park Elementary in Fort Myers, where she specializes in language arts laced with social studies and science lessons.

She has been working with the Lee County School District for seven years since moving to Florida from a position as professor at Ridgewater College in Hutchinson, Minnesota. Before moving here, she had completed her master's degree in education at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana.

“The goal was to develop lessons that are relevant for the students to enhance their understanding of the sci-

ence standards with a hands-on experience,” Jennifer said. “The focus of the lessons will not only be to learn basic science requirements but also encourage excitement towards the wildlife and outdoor environments that surround them here in the state of Florida.”

“We are so grateful to Jennifer,” said Conservation Educator Sara Soderholm. “She went above and beyond in creating exciting tools to ignite students’ interest and love of nature and assist teachers in achieving the environmental standards set by the state.”

Anyone interested in making a tax-deductible donation for ongoing needs for the WoW project can contact DDWS Executive Director Birgie Miller at 239-472-1100 ext. 232.



The Refuge hired Lee County teacher Jennifer Rasner to help with WoW curriculum planning over the summer.

Paperless Refuge Maps

To save trees and minimize human contact during the pandemic, Refuge staff has created digital maps of the Refuge and the Refuge System that you can upload to your electronic WiFi-enabled devices. Look for QR codes in the kiosk at the bottom of the entrance ramp at the Visitor & Education Center or upload your maps here before you visit.

Note: Newer iPhone and Android phone versions include an app for scanning QR codes. If you have an older version, you may have to manually download the free Neo-Reader app from the Apple App Store or Google Play.



Refuge QR

Scan this code for the Refuge's brochure and map.

System QR

Find any of the 560-plus refuges across the nation by scanning this code.



The entryway kiosk displays traditional maps and QR codes visitors can use to download digital maps to their smart device.

TARPON BAY EXPLORERS SCHEDULE

(tarponbayexplorers.com; call ahead to 239-472-8900 to confirm schedule and make reservations)

Tram Tours of Wildlife Drive*: Oct: Call for schedule. Nov and Dec: Sat-Thurs 8:30am, 11am and 1:30pm

Kayak Trail Tour or Low Tide Paddle*: Mon-Fri 8:30am, 10am and 1pm; Sat and Sun 10am and 1pm

Sunset Rookery Paddle*: Mon, Wed, Fri, and Sat or Sun. All 2 hours prior to sunset

Standup Paddleboard Tour*: Tues, Thurs, Sat. 9am

Nature and Sea Life Cruise: October: Mon Wed Fri Sun 11am and 1:30pm. Nov and Dec: Daily at 11am and 1:30pm

Evening Cruise: October: Mon, Wed, Fri, Sun. Nov and Dec: Daily; all 2 hours prior to sunset

Rentals (including Hobie fishing kayaks) and fishing charters: Daily 8am-5pm

*Additional times available December 21-31

INCLUDE



Ding

IN YOUR WILL OR ESTATE

PROTECT THE FUTURE... NOW.

Ensuring wildlife has a place to thrive in the future is as easy as naming "Ding" Darling in your will, or designating it as a beneficiary to your retirement plan, IRA, or other financial account.

AN EASY WAY TO GIVE...

- There is no minimum amount for the gift.
- You can change your plans at any time.
- Help protect "Ding" Darling and its wildlife and inspire future generations to do the same.

HOW TO WORD IT:

I give, devise, and bequeath to The "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society, Inc., a Florida non-profit corporation located on Sanibel Island, Florida [written amount or percentage of the estate or description of property] for [designate the purpose, if desired, or leave blank for gifts to be used to address the greatest need].



WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU



239.472.1100 EXT. 4



dingdarlingsociety.org/
articles/include-ding-in-
your-will



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Photography Chelle Koster Walton,
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Design and Production Susan Holly,
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Monitor dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/covid-19 for news of event cancellations.

Wildlife on Wheels (WoW) Unveiling – October TBA

75th Anniversary Proclamation at City Hall – November 3, 2020

Holiday Shopping Events – November - December 2020

Official 75th Anniversary Celebration & "Ding" Darling Day – December 1, 2020

75th Anniversary Drive-In Theater Gala – December 1, 2020

DDWS Annual Meeting – December 2, 2020

Clyde Butcher Book-Signing – December TBA

National Bird Day – January 5, 2021

Lecture Series – January 29 - March 19, 2021

Bi-Weekly Film Series – January 20 - April 14, 2021

Earth Day at the Refuge – April 22, 2021

2021 Annual Go Wild for "Ding" – February 10, 2021

SOLD OUT! Ninth Annual "Ding" Darling & Doc Ford's Tarpon Tournament – May 14, 2021

Artist-in-Residence Exhibition – October - Mid-November 2021

Niki Butcher Photographic Exhibition – Mid-November-December 2021



Recycled nature crafts and other family activities will take place outdoors with proper social distancing during "Ding" Darling Day, December 1.

Monitor our COVID-19 page (dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/covid-19) for news of event cancellations.